

## GW BOT

*The prints, paintings and sculptures of GW Bot engage with the environment in a topographic and metaphysical sense, and are often interpreted as an allegory for a person's passage through life. Typically, Bot's work features strong silhouettes, a natural colour palette, coarse visual texture and complex, rhythmic patterns and glyphs. These glyphs are symbols of natural elements that communicate Bot's bond with the Australian landscape, forming a unique language for her to employ intuitively. Printmaking is Bot's primary medium, and her use of the linocut allows for flexibility of line and intricate repetition of pattern. GW Bot draws her exhibiting name from a French document citing the earliest written reference to a wombat or 'le grand Wam Bot'. Her decision to adopt this reference to the wombat as her namesake stems from her appreciation of Aboriginal totemic belief, where each member of a clan inherits a totemic relationship with a particular plant or animal of the region. In all variations of her work, GW Bot marries a mastery of technique with unlimited creativity and intuitive sensitivity.*

*GW Bot studied art in London, Paris and Australia, graduating from the Australian National University in 1982. She has been a full-time artist since 1985 and has held a plethora of solo exhibitions in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane, Perth, London, Paris, New York, Los Angeles and Manila. She is represented in over one hundred public collections, including the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Albertina, Vienna, British Museum, London; British Library, London; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris; and Fogg Museum of Fine Arts, Harvard University, USA. GW Bot is also represented in numerous Australian regional public galleries, major corporate collections, as well as domestic and international tertiary, college and academy art collections.*

## BIOGRAPHY

- 1954 Born Quetta, Pakistan
- Studied art in London, Paris and Australia
- 1980 Drawings first published in a book in London
- 1982 Graduated from Australian National University
- 1985 Commenced fulltime career as practicing artist
- 1995 Environmental Artists in Schools Scheme (ACT Cultural Council)
- 1996 Artist-in-residence at Arthur Boyd's gift to the nation, Bundanon
- 1999 Artist-in-residence at Arthur Boyd's gift to the nation, Bundanon
- 2003 Artist-in-residence at University of Wollongong, NSW
- 2006 Artist-in-residence at Australian National University in sculpture workshop
- 2010 Artist-in-residence, Calvary Hospital, Canberra

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Hart Gallery, London, UK
- 2010 "The long paddock; a 30 year survey", Goulburn Regional Art Gallery (touring to Grafton Regional Gallery, Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Mosman Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Orange Regional Gallery, Tamworth Regional Gallery, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, Artspace Mackay, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Maitland Regional Art Gallery 2010 - 2013)
- "A morphology of glyphs", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2009 "Fields of Glyphs", Hart Gallery, London, UK
- "Fire Glyphs and Spirits", Artspace Mackay, Qld
- 2008 "Paddock Glyphs", Australian Galleries, Sydney
- "Paddock Glyphs", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2007 "Glyphs", Hart Gallery, London, UK
- "Glyphs", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- "Glyphs", Gadfly Gallery, Perth
- 2006 "Glyphs", Australian Galleries, Sydney
- "Glyphs", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2005 "Morphic Fields", Hart Gallery, London, UK
- "An Australian symphony", 5 + 5 Gallery, New York, USA
- "Paths of being", Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- "Morphic fields and gardens", Gadfly Gallery, Perth
- "Figure in landscape", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney

- 2004 "An island of life", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Earth and Sky", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2003 "Gardens", Canberra Museum and Gallery  
"The Garden of Possibilities", Canberra Museum and Gallery
- 2002 "The Body in Question", Gadfly Gallery, Perth  
"Suburban Gardens: Arrivals and Journeys", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney
- 2001 "Gardens: Rites of Passage", Chapman Gallery, Canberra  
"Gardens: Rites of Passage", Hart Gallery, London, UK  
"Gardens: Rites of Passage", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney
- 2000 "Ancestral Landscapes", Port Jackson Fine Art, Laguna Beach, Los Angeles, USA  
"Recent relief prints", Bulle Galleries, Melbourne  
"Bundanon Series", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Mystic Language", Grahame Galleries + Editions, Brisbane
- 1999 "The Australian Wilderness and Garden: Language, calligraphy and semiotics", Hart Gallery, London, UK  
"Works on paper", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Semiotics of the Australian Wilderness", Bulle Gallery, Melbourne  
"Enclosures", Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- 1998 "Paper Garden", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney
- 1997 "The Lady and the Unicorn", Hart Gallery, London, UK  
"Journeys of a Poet", Lyall Burton Gallery, Melbourne  
"Sacred Gardens: drypoints and relief prints", Hart Gallery, Nottingham, UK
- 1996 "The Lady and the Unicorn", Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- 1995 "Journeys", Australian Embassy, Paris, France  
"Journeys", Australia Centre, Manila, Philippines
- 1994 "Journeys", Chapman Gallery, Canberra
- 1993 "Crucifixion", Criterion Gallery, Braidwood, NSW
- 1992 "An enclosed space", Canberra Contemporary Art Space  
"Crucifixion", Dubbo Regional Gallery, NSW

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 "Out of Australia: prints and drawings from Sidney Nolan to Rover Thomas", British Museum, London, UK
- 2010 Royal Academy Summer Show, London, UK  
"Abstract nature", Samstag Museum, Adelaide  
"Joseph Banks: A regional response", Goulburn Regional Art Gallery, NSW  
"Australian Trilogy: Dennis Nona, Abie Loy Kemarre, GW Bot", Arts d'Australie, Paris, France  
8eme Mondial de l'Estampe et de la Gravure Originale, Triennale de Chamalieres, France  
Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries, Canberra)
- 2009 "Tasmania 1: 100,000 Mapping the island", IXL Atrium, Hobart  
Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
Silkcut Award for Linocut prints, Melbourne  
"The International Print Triennial Krakow 2009", Poland  
"Stories of our making", University of the West of England, Bristol, UK  
"Stories of our making:", Tweed River Gallery, Murwillumbah, NSW  
"Art London", Chelsea, UK  
"Surfacing", inaugural exhibition, Belconnen Arts Centre, Canberra
- 2008 Melbourne Art Fair (Beaver Galleries, Canberra)  
"Recent Acquisitions", British Museum, London, UK  
Robert Jacks Drawing Prize, Bendigo Art Gallery, Vic  
Dobell Prize for Drawing Art Gallery of NSW  
Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
Silkcut Award for Linocut prints, Melbourne  
"National works on paper", Mornington Peninsula Gallery, Vic  
Fremantle Print Award, WA  
"Retroactive", Canberra Contemporary Art Space

- 2007 "The other thing - a survey show", Charles Darwin University, NT  
Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London, UK  
Wynne Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
Dobell Prize for Drawing, Art Gallery of NSW  
Monalto Sculpture Prize, Vic  
"The story of Australian printmaking 1803-2005", National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
"Devilbend", Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Vic  
CPM National Print Awards, Tweed River Art Gallery, Murwillumbah, NSW  
Geelong Acquisitive Print Awards, Geelong Gallery, VIC  
"Site and soul III", Canberra Museum and Gallery  
Guanlan International Print Biennial, Shenzhen, China  
Southern Cross University Acquisitive Artists' book Award, Lismore, NSW  
"Lessons in history, vol. 1", Grahame Galleries + Editions, Brisbane  
"Prints from the Studio of Hugh Stoneman", Stoneman Graphics Gallery, Penzance, UK  
Hart Gallery Collection, New Ashgate Gallery, Surrey, UK  
Artists' books and multiples fair Brisbane, University Art Museum, University of Queensland, Brisbane  
"Prints", Wagga Wagga Regional Gallery, NSW  
"Gifted", Charles Darwin University Art Collection, Darwin  
"Marks and motifs: Prints from the PCA Collection", QUT national touring exhibition  
"From here to eternity: Contemporary tapestries from the Victorian Tapestry Workshop", national touring exhibition
- 2006 Dobell Prize for Drawing, Art Gallery of NSW  
"Being at Bundanon", Bundanon national travelling exhibition  
"Footprints on the Lake", Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW  
"Multiplicity: Small tapestries", Victorian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne  
50 years Australian Galleries Anniversary Exhibition, Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
International Print Triennial Cracow, Poland  
Kedumba Drawing Award 2006, Wentworth Falls, NSW (acquired)  
Silkcut Award for Linocuts Award, Melbourne  
R&M McGivern Art Prize, Maroondah Regional Gallery, Ringwood  
CMAG touring exhibition, Narra City Gallery, Japan  
International Graphic Triennial, Bitola, Republic of Macedonia  
Cadaques Mini print exhibition, Spain
- 2005 Dobell Prize for Drawing, Art Gallery of NSW  
"Notes from the Natural World", Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
"Fireworks: an incendiary exploration of Australian art", Mackay Artspace, Qld (national tour)  
"Works on Paper 2005", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Contrasts with the Charles Sturt University Art Collection", Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery  
"25 x 25: celebrating 25 years of printmaking 1980 - 2005", Megalo Access Arts, Canberra  
"Sculpture 2005", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Site and Soul II", Canberra Museum and Art Gallery  
Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW
- 2004 Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
International Print Triennial, Lowicz, Poland  
"Contemporary prints and drawings", Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
"Sacred ground: Spirituality and land in Australia", Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Canberra  
"Contemporary Australian Prints from the Collection", Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"Sculpture 2004", Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney  
"Surface tension", New York Society of Etchers, NY, USA & Australian tour
- 2003 International Print Triennial, Kracow, Poland  
Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
"By George", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Sydney Art on Paper Fair", the 9th Biennial Art Fair, Sydney
- 2002 "Miniare", Biennale International d'Estampes Miniatures de Montréal, Canada  
"Print Australia", North-west Print Council, Portland, Oregon

- "Shakehands", Halbtorn/ Vienna/ Neusiedl am See, Austria  
Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Art, London  
Sulman Exhibition Prize, Art Gallery of NSW  
"Shades of pink", Manly Art Gallery and Museum, NSW  
"2002 Silk Cut Award", Melbourne
- 2001 "Island Postcards", State Library of Tasmania, Hobart  
3rd International Ex-Libris Exhibition, Rijeka, Croatia
- 2000 4th International Triennial of Graphics and Posters, Kharkiv, Ukraine  
5th Triennale Moniale de l'estampe petit format, Chamalières, France  
"Six Australian Artists", Lane Gallery, Auckland  
10th Gielniak Graphic Competition, Poland  
5th Sapporo International Print Biennale, Japan  
The art on paper fair, Royal College of Art, London  
"Weerewa woodcuts one", Bungendore Woodworks Gallery, NSW  
"Looking at a different aspect of Parliament House", Parliament House  
Mini Print International, Cadaques, Spain
- 1999 "We Are Australian", George Adams Gallery, Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne & national tour  
"Second Skin", RMIT, Melbourne  
Premio Internazionale Biella per L'incisione, Italy  
"Suddenly the Lake", Canberra Museum and Gallery  
"The present spirit", Helen Maxwell Gallery, Canberra
- 1998 "National Works on Paper", Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, VIC  
International Biennial of Graphic Art, Belgrade, Yugoslavia  
"Joyce and the Nymph", Coach House, the Rocks, Sydney  
Silk Cut Award, Melbourne  
"Atelier Point et Marge", Paris, France  
Silk Cut Linoprint Collection, Fremantle Arts Centre, WA  
"Thirty Year of Korean Contemporary Prints: a Decade of Contemporary Australian Printmaking", Metropolitan Museum of Seoul, Korea
- 1997 3rd International Triennial of Graphics and Posters, Kharkiv, Ukraine  
5th International Triennial Sztuki, Majdanek, Poland  
"Artists' Books", Criterion Fine Art Gallery, Braidwood, NSW  
Osaka Triennale, Japan  
2nd International Print Triennial "Colour in Graphic Art", Toru ' n, Poland  
International Print Triennial, Cracow, Poland  
International Print Exhibition, Portland Art Museum, Oregon, USA  
"Xylon 13: International Triennial of Artistic Relief Printing", Switzerland and international tour
- 1996 Blake Prize for Religious Art, Sydney and National Touring Exhibition  
"Xylon 13", Winterthur, Switzerland  
Premio Internazionale Biella per L'incisione, Italy  
"Works on Paper", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
Silk Cut Print Award, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne  
Sixth National Print Prize, Murwillumbah Tweed River Regional Gallery
- 1995 Print Triennial '94 Consumenta '95, Nuremberg, Germany  
"Borderlines", Spiral Arm Gallery, Canberra  
"Western Australia Print Exchange Exhibition, Studio One, Canberra  
"A Changing Landscape", Nolan Gallery, ACT
- 1994 "Contemporary Australian Printmaking", Sherman Galleries, Sydney  
"The print, the press, the artist and the printer", ANU, Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra  
International Print Triennial, MTG 1994, Cracow, Poland  
"Print Show", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Winter Solstice", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
International Exhibition of Graphic Art, Kharkiv, Ukraine
- 1993 "The Tree of Life", Studio One Gallery, Canberra

- "Saints and sacred places", Barry Stern Gallery, Sydney  
"Ten Years of Acquisitions: ANU Collection", Drill Hall Gallery, Canberra  
Blake Prize, Blaxland Gallery, Sydney  
1992 "Addressing the Chair", Canberra Contemporary Art Space  
"Between the covers", Canberra Contemporary Art Space  
1991 "Canberra Souvenir", Canberra Contemporary Art Space  
"A tribute to Ronaldo Cameron", Lake Macquarie Art Gallery, NSW  
"Art for life", Studio One Gallery, Canberra  
"Common Threads/A fine line", Canberra Contemporary Art Space  
"Hard Pressed", Jan Taylor Gallery, Sydney  
1990 "Sun, Smoke and Steel", Studio One National Touring Exhibition  
"Artist Made", Ben Grady Gallery, Canberra  
"Focus on the Landscape", Studio One Gallery, Canberra  
"Fragments and Foundations", aGog Gallery, Canberra  
1989 "Wild Art", Bondi Pavillion, Sydney  
1988 "10.1 Print Project", National Touring Exhibition  
1987 The Blake Prize, Sydney  
1986 Kingston Art Space, Canberra

#### AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2008 "La Gravure Originale", Commissioned Member Print, Paris  
"The Lake", sculptural installation, Goulburn Regional Gallery, NSW  
2007 Print Council of Australia Commissioned Member Print  
2006 National Critics Selection: "50 Most Collectible Artists", Australian Art Collector  
2005 Finalist, National Sculpture Prize, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra  
National Critics Selection: "50 Most Collectible Artists", Australian Art Collector  
Alumina Ltd. Award, section 2, works on paper, Comalco Martin Hanson Memorial Art Awards  
2004 Canberra Times Artist of the Year  
Member's Commission, Print Council of Australia  
Acquisition, Silk Cut Award  
2000 Acquisition, Silk Cut Award  
Acquisition, Mini Print International, Cadaqués, Spain  
CAPO Fellow  
1999 Member's Commission, Print Council of Australia  
ACT Cultural Council Development Grant  
1998 Winner, Illawarra Acquisitive Print Award  
Winner, Tyree-Tycan Print Prize, Bowral, NSW  
Commissioned portfolio, NGA "New Worlds from Old"  
Acquisition, 29th Alice Art Prize, Alice Springs, NT  
1997 Member's Commission, Print Council of Australia  
ACT Cultural Council Development Grant  
Acquisitive Award, Tweed Regional Art Gallery  
Acquisitive Award, University of Western Sydney  
Three commissioned drypoints, Hugh Stoneman Graphics, Cornwall/Hart Gallery, London  
1995 ACT Cultural Council Development Grant  
1994 Zaokhochuval'na Prize, 2nd International Exhibition of Graphic Art and Posters, Kharkiv, Ukraine  
Canberra Critics Award (Visual Arts)  
CAPO Grant  
Commended, Berrima District Art Society  
1992 Canberra Critics Award (Visual Arts)  
CAPO Grant

#### PUBLICATIONS

- 2010 *Joseph Banks: A regional response*, Jane Cush, Goulburn Regional Art Gallery

- "Poetic, beautiful and personal", Carly Smith, *Canberra Times*, 18 May
- 2008 *The printmaking bible*, Ann D'Arcy Hughes & Hebe Vernon-Morris, Chronicle Books, p. 207-09  
"GW Bot: Paddock Glyphs", Anne Ryan, *Art and Australia*, vol. 46 no. 1  
"GW Bot: Paddock Glyphs", Glenn Barkley, *Imprint*, vol. 43 no. 3
- 2007 *GW Bot Glyphs*, Sheridan Palmer, Hart Gallery, London, 2007  
"A showing of stunning prints and twisting bronzes", Charly Ogilvie, *The Canberra Times*, 9 August 2007
- 2006 "Between line and layers of paint", Sebastian Smees, *The Australian*, 14 December 2006 (review of Sydney show)  
*McCulloch's Encyclopaedia of Australian Art, 4<sup>th</sup> edition*, Alan McCulloch, Susan McCulloch and Emily McCulloch Childs, University of Melbourne Publishing, Melbourne, p. 270-71
- 2005 *G.W.Bot Morphic Fields*, Lou Klepac, Hart Gallery, London
- 2004 *Contemporary Australian Prints from the collection*, Anne Ryan, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney  
"G.W.Bot: Gardens of fire", Laura Murray Cree, *State of the Arts*, April/June  
"Anima and essences: the art of G.W.Bot", Peter Haynes, *Craft Arts International*, No 61
- 2003 *G.W.Bot: Gardens*, Peter Haynes, Canberra Museum and Gallery  
"G.W.Bot's Garden State", *Printmaking Today*, London, vol. 12  
"Private garden is pure visual poetry", Sonia Barron, *Canberra Times*, 7 July
- 2002 *Royal Academy Illustrated*, London, p. 117
- 2001 "Still life refuses to sit still", review by Courtney Kidd, *Sydney Morning Herald*, May 16
- 2000 *Australian Identities in Printmaking: the Australian Print Collection of the Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery*
- 1999 "G.W.Bot: Artist's eye", David Lee, *Art Review*, London, Nov.  
"G.W.Bot - Enclosures" in *G.W.Bot: the Australian Wilderness and Garden: Language, calligraphy and semiotics*, Anne Gray, Hart Gallery, London
- 1998 "G.W.Bot: Poetry of Line", Pat Gilmour, *Art and Australia*, issue 2  
"The Poet's Garden", Sheridan Palmer, *Imprint*, vol. 33 no. 1  
"G.W.Bot: Poet and Prophet", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Muse*, 98/99
- 1997 *Journeys*, BB Press, Canberra  
*Offerings*, Finlay Press and BB Press, Yabber Yabber Publications, Goulburn  
*The Lady and the Unicorn*, Deborah Hart, Hart Gallery, London  
*Australian Printmaking in the 1990's: Artist printmakers 1990-1995*, Sasha Grishin, Craftsman House, Sydney
- 1994 Cover design for *Brolga: An Australian Journal About Dance*, No. 1 Dec  
*Contemporary Australian Printmaking: an interpretive history*, Sasha Grishin, Craftsman House, Sydney
- 1992 *The Field of Life*, Goanna Print, Canberra  
*To Walk Across a Field*, Raft Press, Canberra  
*A Red Book*, Raft Press, Canberra  
*A Black Book*, Raft Press, Canberra
- 1991 *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*, Raft Press, Canberra, Vol 3  
*A Dictionary of Women Artists of Australia*, Max Germaine, Craftsman House, Sydney
- 1990 *Artists and Galleries of Australia*, Max Germaine, 3rd edition
- 1987 "Public Sculpture", Graeme Sturgeon, *Art and Australia*, Vol. 25 No. 2
- 1980 *Australian Sculptors*, Ken Scarlett, Nelson  
*The Spartans*, text by L.F.Fitzhardinge, illustrations by G.W.Bot, Thames and Hudson, London

## COLLECTIONS

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra; National Library of Australia, Canberra; Queensland Art Gallery; Art Gallery of South Australia; Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney; State Library of Victoria; State Library of Queensland; ANU Art Collection, Canberra; University of Canberra Art Collection; Canberra School of Art Collection; Calvary Hospital, Canberra; Sydney College of the Arts; University of Technology Art Collection, Sydney; Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne; University of Western Sydney Art Collection; Charles Darwin University Art Collection, Darwin, NT; Queensland University of Technology; Mitchell Library, Sydney; Mornington Peninsula Art Gallery, WA; Brisbane City Gallery; John Curtin Gallery, WA; Araluen Art Centre, Alice Springs, NT; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tas; Kedumba Collection, Wentworth Falls, NSW; Print Council of Australia; Silk Cut Foundation Collection; Magnani Papers Australia; Macquarie Bank, Sydney; Artbank; Bundanon Collection; James Hardie Collection of Australian Fine Art; Regional Gallery Collections including: Burnie, Hastings Port Macquarie, Wagga Wagga, Lake Macquarie, Tweed River, Bathurst, Grafton, Gladstone, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Gippsland, City of



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Banyule, Mildura, Warrnambool, Goulburn, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery; Albertina, Vienna, Austria; British Museum, London; British Library, London; Victoria & Albert Museum, London; Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris; Fogg Museum of Fine Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA; Kharkiv Art Museum, Ukraine; Lublin Museum, Poland; Museum of Modern Art, Osaka, Japan; Falmouth Gallery, Cornwall, UK; Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing, China; Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Canada.